

For some time now, I have despaired over the loss of Equal Time and, to some degree, the Fairness Rules in broadcasting. Sinclair Broadcasting's airing an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example. I'm a Republican, but feel this behavior does not serve our democracy.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.